

Christine Joyce

From: William Mullin [WMullin@wcu.com]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2013 3:31 PM
To: Board of Selectmen
Cc: Morrison Committee; Tom Tidman; Catherine Fochtman; Tom Ryan (tryan@ryan-assoc.com)
Subject: New Siting
Attachments: Morrison Farm Brochure-trifold_02-25-13_2 (2).pdf; Morrison Farm Master_Plan 022213.pdf; Morrison Farm NH Center Detail_022513.pdf

Hello Friends-

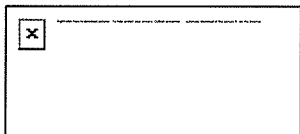
As I promised attached are new site plans showing the shift of the Morrison Nature & History Center a bit forward.

Also, I attach our revised Trifold handout that is updated by listing the organizations that have recently written of their support for our Living History Park.

If there is something specific you would like me to address, please let me know.

Best,

Bill



William Mullin

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Why Do We Want to Do This?

The Morrison Farm Value Proposition:

If we create a new Living History Park...



capturing the gifts of nature and the essence of Acton's four centuries of history...

at a cost of approximately \$2.8mm...

all people in Acton and our broader community...

will have a unique opportunity to experience nature, to actively and passively exercise, and to learn about our past...



while forever preserving the Morrison Farm, Ice House Pond, East Acton Village Common, and The Captain Robbins Homestead Site.

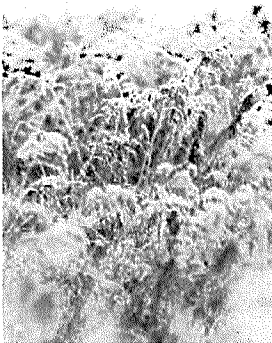


Photo: Acton Historical Society

The approval of the *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan* will ensure that this precious land, at its keystone location in our town, is saved for the enjoyment of all.



FOUR CENTURIES/ FOUR SEASONS



Photos by John Earle

This document has been created and paid for by The Friends of Morrison Farm, Inc., a 501(c)(3) charitable organization formed to aid with the creation of a Living History Park at Morrison Farm and nearby Town of Acton locations. For more information, please contact Bill Mullin at 978-263-5972 or wmullin@wcu.com.

A Living History Park at

MORRISON FARM

FOUR CENTURIES /
FOUR SEASONS



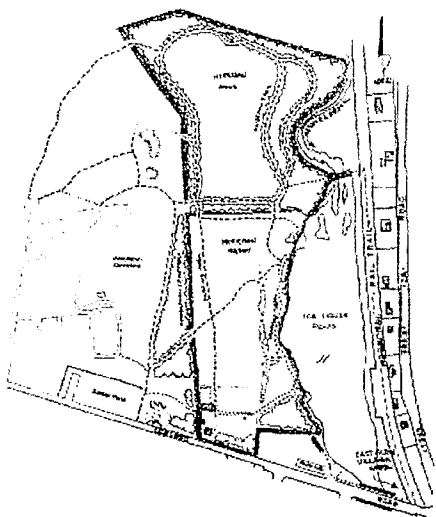
CREATING A NEW MULTI-PURPOSE
PARK IN THE CONTEXT OF
MORRISON FARM'S FOUR CENTURIES

Morrison Farm Committee
The Friends of Morrison Farm

What is the Morrison Farm and Why is it Important?

Morrison Farm is a 32-acre parcel located on Concord Road, that lies between the Woodlawn Cemetery and Ice House Pond, both of which are Town-owned properties.

Our town land is important for open space, historic preservation and recreational use.



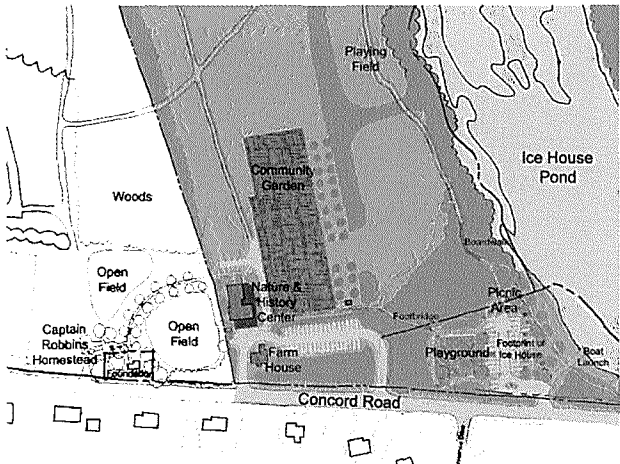
In 1997, Town Meeting voted to acquire the farm subject to a life estate; in 2003, the farm came under the control of the Town. Planning then commenced in earnest, and the *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan* is the end result of that planning.

Morrison Farm is important because it is a key-stone location that touches on delightful and vital town assets. The Plan preserves this land for the next 50, 100, or more years, so that the centuries of our past are connected to the imaginable years of our future.

Much like the magnificent 'Emerald Necklace' of Boston, as created by Frederick Law Olmsted over a century ago, the elements of Morrison Farm are a part of a whole, linking to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, East Acton Village, Woodlawn Cemetery and The Captain Robbins Homestead Site, and reaching toward our Historic Center of Acton.

What Are We Trying To Do?

The *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan* seeks to create a new, living history park.



The following are the major elements:

- The Forest
- The Trails
- The Organic Farms
- The Playing Field
- The Meadows
- The Morrison Nature and History Center
- The Captain Robbins Homestead Site
- The Ice House
- The Play/Picnic Grounds
- The East Acton Village Common

The Morrison Farm Committee is comprised of a broad representation of our community. Please feel free to contact any member for more information.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Bill Mullin, Chair | Andy Magee |
| Kitty Cunkleman, Clerk | Chip Orcutt |
| Charlie Aaronson | Doug Tindal |
| Ann Chang | Tom Tidman, Town of |
| Walter Foster | Acton Natural |
| Peter Grover | Resources Director |

To view a complete copy of the *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan*, go to:

<http://www.acton-ma.gov/index.aspx?NID=276>

How Will We Get this Done?

The *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan* is a multi-element, multi-year program that seeks a total of \$2,782,000. A portion will be 'expensed', from current year Community Preservation Act funds; another portion will be 'bonded' paying over time. The following is a summary of the costs sorted by each major element of the Plan.

Element	Total
Trails	\$549,000
Infrastructure	\$654,000
Morrison Nature & History Bldg	\$985,000
Meadows/ Playing Field	\$20,000
Cap't Robbins Homestead	\$55,000
Ice House Area	\$210,000
EAV Common	\$70,000
Arch, Eng, Survey & Legal	\$239,000
Total	\$2,782,000

Private Donations

The Friends of Morrison Farm, Inc. is augmenting funding with private in-kind and cash resources. The Friends have commitments in excess of \$100,000, which will allow architecture, landscape architecture, archaeological survey, and civil engineering to be conducted concurrently with the approval process of the *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan*.

Broad Support

The *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan* has been endorsed by:

- The Board of Selectmen
- The Historical Commission
- The Cemetery Commission (with respect to The Captain Robbins Homestead Site)
- The Recreation Commission
- The Friends of Morrison Farm
- Acton Garden Club
- Acton Family Network
- Acton 2020 Implementation Committee

What Next?

The *Morrison Farm Implementation Plan* must be approved by Acton Town Meeting. It is anticipated that the Community Preservation Act votes will take place at Town Meeting, April 2nd or 3rd. We need you to support this Plan by coming to Town Meeting and voting "Yes." Because this program will be bonded over several years, a 2/3 vote is required.

